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The Chance to Save a Pilot's Life

By Mass Communication Specialist Seaman Apprentice Shanika Futrell

If a pilot should need to eject from an aircraft, who is behind all the maintenance for this equipment?

Aircrew Survival Equipmentmen (PRs) work on survival gear.

"Our job specifically entails testing and checking parachutes, life preservers and life rafts, sea kits, oxygen components, analyzing oxygen samples and local manufacturing," said Aircrew Survival Equipmentman 1st Class (AW) Paulo Osorio.

PRs have a major responsibility, because the maintenance they are required to perform plays a great deal with people's lives.

"Our job is fairly rewarding, because you have the chance to possibly save someone's life," said Aircrew Survival Equipmentman 2nd Class Lindsey Reece. "It's challenging, but critical, to pay constant attention to detail and to meet these needs and challenges. We train constantly, and we are always hands-on with the gear."

There are two different levels involved with the PR rating. There are Organization (O-level) and Intermedi-



Photo by MCSA Shanika Futrell

Aircrew Survival Equipmentman Airman David Eyler cuts out patterns to make head covers for ready room seats on board USS Dwight D. Eisenhower (CVN 69). PRs test and check parachutes, life preservers, sea kits and oxygen components to make sure the gear is working properly.

ate (I-level) levels.

"I-level is better, because it is stressful, but not too stressful," said Aircrew Survival Equipmentman Airman David Eyler. "There are no surprises, and PRs learn more in I-level."

I-level consists of three parts, Alpha, Bravo and a Charlie.

Alpha deals with parachutes.

Bravo deals with floatation and seat pans, and Charlie deals with oxygen," said Eyler.

The PRs work a twelve on and twelve off work rotation, but just like

any other shop, if the work is not done, they will be there a little longer.

"We stay busy because we are building a Paraloft," said Osorio. "The IKE has not been on a deployment in a while, so a Paraloft wasn't really needed."

PRs are under a tremendous amount of pressure and face difficult challenges while deployed.

"We are under 90 percent pressure, when the air wing is on board, because gear needs to be worked on constantly to ensure the safety of our fellow shipmates," said Osorio. "The most challenging part of the job would have to be parachute and the 10X converter, because of the liquid oxygen being so dangerous."

PRs encourage undesignated Sailors to strike into the rating as long as they realize it is to be taken seriously.

"If you are willing to work and go that extra mile to make sure you are doing your job right the first time then this is for you," said Reece. "Everything we do, we do it by the book to make sure we are carrying out the maintenance 100 percent."

If you would like information about this rating, please contact J-5576 for Reece or J-5551 for Eyler. ★

CLEP and DSST Exams available on board

CLEP General Exams

Natural Sciences
Humanities
English Composition
College Mathematics
Social Sciences and History



CLEP Subject Exams

College Algebra
Intro to Sociology
US History I
US History II
Information Systems and Computer applications
Analyzing and Interpreting Literature
Intro to Psychology
Principles of Management

DSST Exams

Intro to Computing
Management Information Systems
Human Resource Management
Organizational Behavior
Criminal Justice



Sailors of the Day - Sunday

Photos by MCSN David Giorda



IT1 (SW) Mario Clay
Destroyer Squadron 28



AT3 (AW) Yesenia Ortiz
VFA-83 "Rampagers"

A Perfect Time to Reenlist

We are now Tax Free and it is a perfect time to reenlist. Anyone who reenlists while in a Tax Free zone and is eligible to receive a Selective Reenlistment Bonus (SRB) will enjoy Tax Free status for all remaining SRB payments. During USS Enterprise's recent deployment, they achieved a mass reenlistment for 42 Sailors and 2 million dollars in SRB money.

IKE's Career Development Team is putting together a mass reenlistment scheduled for December 20, 2006 at 1000 in an attempt to top USS Enterprise in both number of Sailors reenlisted and total money given out. IKE has an overall goal of 100 Sailors and 2.1 million dollars in SRB money for the deployment. We can beat that goal in one day.

If you are considering reenlisting, whether SRB eligible or not, contact your Career Counselor and become part of this record-breaking event.

America Supports You

Messages from Americans to the men and women of the Armed Forces



**AMERICA
SUPPORTS
YOU**
OUR MILITARY MEN & WOMEN

I just wanted to thank you for your dedication and sacrifice. Not a day goes by that I don't appreciate and reflect on the vital and difficult job that you do. This country is not perfect and never will be, but its fundamental values serve to ensure prosperity. Furthermore, it is your service that protects those values here at home and provides an opportunity for those abroad to experience the prosperity in life. I work hard in my office job, but I believe that the work you do is far more important and difficult. My brother is in the Navy, and I am proud of him and honor his commitment as I honor your commitment and every great man and woman serving in the military. You are an inspiration to me. Thank you, and God Bless You.

Ward, New York, N.Y.

To view more messages or to post a message of your own, log on to
www.americasupportsyou.mil

Warfare Qualifications

ESWS

AT1 Robert Cook
AT1 Mario Machado
SK1 Michael Puata
AT3 John McDonald
ABH3 Jeffrey McDuffie



Congratulations!

EAWS

AT2 Cedric Marrioneaux
LN2 Jason Weaver
AT2 Seann Lindsey
AE3 Keil Ifill
AT3 Jacob Shock

IKE TV

Channel 5

0900 Big Fish
1100 Cliffhanger
1300 National Treasure
1500 Big Fish
1700 Cliffhanger
1900 IKE News
2000 Sailor of the Day Pick
2200 Big Fish
0000 Cliffhanger
0200 National Treasure
0400 Big Fish

Channel 6

0900 Dirty Dancing:
Havana Nights
1100 Who Framed Roger
Rabbit
1300 40 Year Old Virgin
1500 Dirty Dancing:
Havana Nights
1700 Who Framed Roger
Rabbit
1900 IKE News
2000 Sailor of the Day Pick
2200 Dirty Dancing:
Havana Nights
0000 Who Framed Roger
Rabbit
0200 40 Year Old Virgin
0400 Dirty Dancing:
Havana Nights

Channel 7

0900 Racing Stripes
1100 The Quiet American
1300 Zoom
1500 Racing Stripes
1700 The Quiet American
1900 Command Scroller
2000 Zoom
2400 Racing Stripes
0200 The Quiet American
0400 Zoom

TV schedule available on
Outlook under Public Folders -
all Public Folders-PAO/Media-
TV Schedule and on the IKE
Intranet



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